

Governor Appoints Caregiver Advisory Committee

Governor George H. Ryan in September appointed 27 individuals from diverse professions to serve on a Caregiver Advisory Committee that will advise the Illinois Department on Aging on strengthening support systems for family caregivers.

"Illinois is taking an aggressive approach in its efforts to help those who are caring for an elderly spouse, parent or other relative," Governor Ryan said. "The advisory committee will help guide the Department on Aging on the best ways to provide information, trainings, respite and support

services."

Lt. Governor Corinne Wood will serve as Honorary Chair of the new committee. Illinois Department on Aging Director Margo E. Schreiber will serve as chair.

The committee has been appointed to recommend ways to maximize the use of resources allocated to the state through the National Family Caregiver Support Program, which was created when the Older Americans Act was reauthorized in 2000. Illinois received \$4.7 million, which is

being distributed through Area Agencies on Aging.

"Caregiving affects everyone in the family, and I'm very pleased to be moving forward to address their concerns," Lt. Governor Wood said.

"The Caregiver Advisory Committee will be very instrumental in helping the Illinois Department on Aging create a visible, identifiable network so family caregivers know where to turn when they need help," said Director Schreiber.

Committee members are listed *on page 9 ➤*



Department on Aging Director Margo E. Schreiber (right back) and Mike Dolan of Walgreens Drugstores (center) congratulates inductees into the 2001 Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame. From left to right: Dr. Joe Mini of Peru, Dr. Edmund Rooney of Oaklawn, Mike Dolan, Dr. Alice Purdes of Madison, Judge James McNabb Bumgarner of Hennepin, and Ruth Easton of Mattoon.

New Inductees Enter Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame

Five new inductees entered the Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame in a ceremony August, 13, 2001, at the Illinois State Fair. The Hall of Fame was created in 1994 by the Illinois General Assembly to honor older individuals for achievement in the areas of community service, education, performing arts and the work force. More than 40 people have been named to this esteemed group to date.

Hall of Fame *continued on page 3 ➤*

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The last time a copy of "Network News" was sent out, we were wrapping up a beautiful summer. Now, as the Fall issue goes to press, we are all struggling to deal with the terrorism inflicted on America.

Yet, I am struck by how our country has drawn together in the wake of the attacks. Has our flag ever looked more beautiful? I like the way a Chicago Tribune editorial described it. "The flag is the ultimate expression of individual liberty and yet also, in moments such as these, a declaration that we are one community. A pluralist and often testy community, yes, but one that in the past has found ways to postpone its intramural disagreements when it has faced threats as menacing as this..."

We are also a very giving country, which is being proven once again. People of all ages are helping in the rescue efforts. I noticed an article mentioning an 80-year-old who was helping the American Red Cross at "Ground Zero." And, I am reminded about how our older generations have always "been there" in a crisis. Their patriotism has never wavered.

You may recall how at our recent Illinois State Fair in Springfield, the Department inducted new members of the Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame. One inductee was Ruth Easton, age 103, of Mattoon who is still volunteering for the Red Cross after more than 80 years. You read that correctly!!!

Also, we need look only to older workers for inspiration. Their accomplishments were underscored at an event in Springfield in September in conjunction



with National Employ the Older Worker Week.

People like Merle Phillips, 94, of Wheaton, are wonderful examples of goodness all around us. Merle is a homemaker with Addus HealthCare and is valued for her dedication and unquenchable spirit that brings joy

to her co-workers and those she serves.

Indeed, those of us in the Aging Network are fortunate enough to work with and for some truly astounding people. Now, more than ever, we are counting our blessings. This issue of Network News highlights numerous people that hearten us in these complex times. The "gatekeeper" who helped an 82-year-old woman is just one (see below). There is also plenty of good news to read about in the way of programs and committees, upcoming trainings, and more. So, as we all resume our "normal lives," let's take comfort in all the positive things we in the Aging Network are accomplishing that make a world of difference in the lives of many.

Very truly yours,

Margo E. Schreiber
Margo E. Schreiber, Director
Illinois Department on Aging

'Gatekeeper' to the Rescue

Jeff Goeken, a postal carrier from Normal, is being lauded for coming to the rescue of Dorcas Salowitz after she suffered a fall at her home on August 17th. According to news reports, the 82-year-old woman could not get up and had been laying on the floor for several hours. She knew Goeken would be delivering mail soon and screamed for help. Goeken did hear her, went

inside the house, called 911, and gave Mrs. Salowitz some non-prescription medicine for her pain. Paramedics soon arrived and took her to the local hospital where it was determined she had a broken hip and arm.

News reports were followed by a letter to the editor of the Bloomington Pantagraph by Mike O'Donnell, Executive Director of

the East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging, thanking Goeken for his quick response and caring manner and thanking him for serving as an area "gatekeeper." Gatekeepers are postal workers, newspaper carriers, utility workers and others who are trained by the Illinois Department on Aging to be alert to people on their routes who may be in danger and how to summon assistance. ✚

“These individuals are national gems,” said Margo E. Schreiber, Director of the Illinois Department on Aging, which hosts the induction ceremony. “What they have accomplished and continue to do is remarkable. They are truly deserving of our deepest respect and gratitude.”

They are:

Ruth Easton, 103, of **Mattoon** – The honoree in the Community Service Category has devoted nine decades of her life to volunteering. She has volunteered for the American Red Cross since the Mattoon chapter was founded in 1917. She has participated in nearly every program the relief organization has offered – home services, office work, hospital aid, disaster relief, blood drives and more. Easton also volunteers in nursing homes and for veterans, and makes home-made gifts for those in need. Despite personal tragedies, she has always found time to help others. “Volunteering grows to be a part of you,” she says.

James McNabb Bumgarner, 81, of **Hennepin** – The honoree in the Labor Force Category is a retired judge and decorated veteran. He served as a pilot in World War II. The University of Illinois Law School graduate served in the Air Force from 1951-1974, including a tour of duty in Japan and Vietnam. In Vietnam, Bumgarner supervised criminal and civil law. He was appointed circuit judge in 1979, returning to private practice in 1995. He is held in high esteem for judicial and military careers as well as his contributions to the law profession as continuing service to the community.

Dr. Joe L. Mini, 78, of **Peru**.

Dr. Mini is one of two honorees in the Education Category. He spent 35 years in Illinois public schools as a teacher, coach, principal, superintendent, author, consultant, administrator and more. He taught at schools in Aurora, Oglesby, Dimmick and Peru. He served as Regional Superintendent of LaSalle County Schools for twenty years. He is the author of two books on education, developed a scholarship fund for disadvantaged students, developed the LaSalle County Educational Alliance for Special Education, and the Truants Alternative Program.

Dr. Edmund Rooney, 76, of **Oak Lawn** is also a winner in the Education Category. He is a distinguished journalist, educator and strong advocate for the First Amendment. He won a Pulitzer Prize for reporting. His career in journalism began in 1941 when he served as a reporter for the military newspaper Stars and Stripes during World War II. He also worked at Chicago Daily News. In 1957, he won the Pulitzer Prize for a 1956 series of stories exposing abuse of public funds. He was a Journalism Professor at Loyola University in Chicago, where he earned his doctorate in 1992. Dr.

Walgreens Drugstores sponsors the Hall of Fame. Inductees were selected by a team of judges representing Illinois Aging Network agencies and organizations. ✚

Dike Eddleman of Champaign, one of the judges and a member of the Seniors Hall of Fame, passed away August 1, 2001. He was a multi-sports star regarded as the greatest athlete in the history of the University of Illinois.

Rooney, who is the father of three journalists, inspired generations of students to defend the public’s right to know. He is a member of the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame.

Dr. Alice M. Purdes, 70, of **Madison**. The honoree in the Performance/Graphic Arts Category earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Illinois State University, a certificate from the Sorbonne in Paris and a doctorate from Florida State University. She was the first female doctorate holder in the Metro East area and spent more than 40 years educating others. Forty-one of those years were in the Venice, Illinois school system as director of music, elementary teacher, vocal music director, literacy programs coordinator and chairperson of Venice Technical Center’s language arts department. She is a member of the St. Louis Council on World Affairs. She is also a great athlete, having won gold and silver medals in the National Senior Olympics.

Outstanding Long Term Care Ombudsmen and Elder Abuse Caseworker Receive Awards

Awards were presented to individuals honored for exemplary work in nursing home resident advocacy and responses to elder abuse and neglect July 25, 2001, during the Illinois Department on Aging's 15th Annual Elder Rights Conference in Chicago.

The awards were presented by Illinois Department on Aging Director Margo E. Schreiber and Lt. Governor Corinne Wood to an outstanding Long Term Care Ombudsman, Ombudsman Volunteer, and Elder Abuse Caseworker.

"The honorees have excelled in a very challenging field," said Schreiber. "They have put their heart and soul into their work and have earned the esteem of their colleagues while striving to improve the lives of seniors in need."

"I am very honored to help celebrate the achievements of these heroes," Wood said. "They work hard to protect the rights and dignity of vulnerable seniors and demonstrate the very highest standards of professionalism and altruism."

Winners were chosen based on qualities of team work, professionalism, client advocacy, work ethic, accomplishments and positive attitude. They are:

Outstanding Long Term Care Ombudsman Volunteer:

Betty Ford of **Jacksonville** volunteers for the ICARE Long Term Care Ombudsman Program in **Springfield**. Ford has served as lead volunteer advocate for Morgan and Scott Counties for nearly a decade. Ford is an excellent recruiter and trainer and has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to residents.

Marilyn Hall, who volunteers for the ICARE Long Term Care Ombudsman Program in **Springfield**, and **Rose Hilger**, who volunteers for the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan **Chicago**, each received a "Certificate of Recognition" for their work as Long Term Care Ombudsman Volunteers.

Outstanding Long Term Care Ombudsman:



Todd Shackelford of **Quincy** (above with Lt. Governor Corinne Wood and Director Margo E. Schreiber) has been an ombudsman since 1988 and chairs the Ombudsman Program State Advisory Group. He is described as a powerful advocate for long term care residents and a proponent of the "Pioneer Movement" to enhance the culture of long term care facilities and resident rights.

Long Term Care Ombudsman Certificate of Recognition:

Kathleen Allison of the East Central Illinois Area Agency on

Aging in **Bloomington**; **Dana Cappelen**, of **DuPage County** Senior Citizen Services; and **Rae Kocinski**, also of **DuPage County** Senior Citizen Services.

Outstanding Elder Abuse Caseworker:



Andrew Love, (shown above) caseworker for the **DuPage County** Department of Human Services. His broad level of experience, his calm presence and approach make him an invaluable mentor for new staff. Love is known to always demonstrate the highest degree of integrity and dedication in a very difficult and challenging job.

Elder Abuse Caseworker Certificate of Recognition:

Yvonne Anderson of the Visiting Nurse Association of **Rockford**; **Kim Crutcher** of **PATH** in **Bloomington**; **Maria DeMarco** of Proviso Council on Aging in **Bellwood**; **Ranelle Eigsti**, Catholic Charities, **Diocese of Joliet** in **Kankakee**; **Paula Elliott** of the Montgomery County Health Department in **Hillsboro**; **Mary Jo Farley** of SeniorStrength in **Peoria**; **Ed Fewell** of Alternatives for the Older Adult in **Rock Island**; **Debra Foust** of the Stephenson County Senior Center



From left: Lt. Governor Corinne Wood, Ombudsman Volunteer of the Year Betty Ford, Rose Hilger, Brian Lee (accepting for Marilyn Hall) and IDoA Director Margo Schreiber.

in **Freeport**; **Siv Goulding** of the Prairie Council on Aging in **Jacksonville**; **Jane Hadden**, also of Prairie Council on Aging in **Jacksonville**; **Jill Hawkes** of Leyden Family Service Senior Citizens Center in **Franklin Park**; **Mary Holmes** of Prairie Council on Aging in **Carrollton**; **Katherine Honeywell** of North Shore Senior Center in **Northfield**; **Aileen Kokaska** of PLOWS Council on Aging in **Palos Heights**; **Valerie Kristopher** of Proviso Council on Aging in **Bellwood**; **Judy McElhoe** of West Central Illinois Case Coordination Unit in **Quincy**; and **Mary Lee Williams** of Catholic Charities Northwest Senior Services in **Arlington Heights**. ✚

Tips on Preventing Scams

In light of the recent terrorism in our nation, it is a good time to remind seniors about scams:

- Shortly after the attack, Illinois Attorney General Jim Ryan's office received reports of internet-based "charities" soliciting help for the victims in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania by requesting cash donations and/or credit card numbers.
- The Office of Attorney General has information about charity fraud and scams at www.ag.state.il.us. To report suspected or known fraud, call the Attorney General's Charitable Trust Bureau at 312-814-2595. Let your local sheriff's or police department know, as well.
- If you are unsure if a charitable organization is legitimate, you can ask questions such as: What is the charity's

exact name? Where is it headquartered? How long has it been in operation? Does it have local offices? What is the address and phone number of its local and national offices? Is the charity registered with the Illinois Attorney General's Office? What percentage of the money the charity takes in goes to fund raising?

- If a solicitor cannot or will not answer basic questions about the charity or uses pressure tactics to obtain a donation, do not give. And, even if you are satisfied the charity is legitimate, never contribute cash.
- Do not give out your Social Security number, credit/debit card numbers or checking/savings account information to anyone, if you did not initiate the call. ✚

How to Assist the Red Cross

Here are some commonly requested numbers for legitimate organizations:

- If people want to contribute to the Red Cross over the phone, they may call 1-800-HELP NOW, or log onto www.redcross.org to donate on line. The Spanish number is 1-800-257-7575.
- Contributions may be mailed to your local Red Cross Chapter or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, D.C. 20013.
- People who want to donate blood should call ahead to their local blood bank, or call 1-800-GIVE LIFE to find a Red Cross center nearest them. In the Chicago area, contact LifeSource Blood Services at 1-877-LIFESOURCE.



Health Corner

Nutrition Study Reveals Seniors At Risk

Jonathan Lavin, Executive Director of the Suburban Area Agency on Aging, recently released details of a research study conducted with the Buehler Center on Aging at Northwestern University showing many seniors in suburban Cook County may have poor nutrition.

The study, which surveyed more than 1,000 seniors, found that users of congregate dining programs in suburban Cook County tend to have lower income levels than non-users. They also have a greater likelihood, according to the study, of experiencing diminished physical and mental health and well-being compared to non-users.

Seniors were asked questions about the number of meals eaten per day, type of foods eaten, use of prescription medications, physical ability to shop for and prepare meals, consumption of alcohol, and general eating habits.

Responses revealed that 36 percent of the seniors surveyed are at moderate nutritional risk and 26 percent are at high to severe nutritional risk.

The Suburban Area Agency on Aging is attempting to increase the number of congregate dining locations to make nutritious, congregate meals accessible to more seniors in need. The Agency plans to evaluate special diets, and ethnic meals to better meet the needs of a diverse population. The Agency will also concentrate on education programs about receiving proper nutrition.

New Drug Program Introduced

A new plan has been announced to help low-income seniors and disabled people get cheaper prescription drugs.

The "Orange Card," as it is being called, will entitle holders to savings averaging 35 percent on prescription drugs made by GlaxoSmithKline and sold through pharmacies.

To be eligible, seniors or disabled people must have yearly incomes below 300 percent of the federal poverty level, or less than \$26,000 per year. Eligible people can get Orange Cards from their doctors or by calling a toll-free telephone number, 1-888-672-6436, to apply.

According to the drug company, 54,000 pharmacies across the country will accept the discount card.

New sites selected for TOPS

Four Retired Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP) and two Foster Grandparent Programs (FGP) were awarded grants in September to start a Talented Older Persons in Schools Program (TOPS). The Illinois Department on Aging program encourages senior volunteers to tutor and mentor kindergarten through sixth grade students.

The following programs are recipients of the \$4,000 seed grants: Lifescape Community Services, Inc. Lifescape RSVP, **Rockford**; The Volunteer Center of Northwest Suburban Chicago,

RSVP of Northern Cook and Northern DuPage Counties, **Arlington Heights**; Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging, RSVP Quad Cities, **Rock Is-**



land; Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic Opportunity, Inc., **Peoria**; PCCEO Foster Grandparent Programs for Peoria and Tazewell Counties, **Peoria**; John Wood Community College, Adams County RSVP, **Quincy**; and Central Illinois Economic Development Corporation, C.I.E.D.C. Foster Grandparent Program, **Lincoln**.



IDoA Receives Caregiving Grant

The Illinois Department on Aging will receive a \$232,912 federal grant to help elderly family caregivers of adult children with developmental disabilities. The grant will be used to identify families in need, increase the number of families receiving training on planning for the future, assist the families with current and future needs, and link them to needed services and support groups. IDoA, the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities, and research-

Flu vaccinations urged for those at high risk

Due to delays in the distribution of influenza vaccine, the Illinois Department of Public Health is recommending that elderly and individuals with chronic health conditions be the first to receive the flu vaccine while healthy people defer being vaccinated until November when supplies are expected to be more plentiful.

"The flu is potentially serious and can be life-threatening to the elderly and persons at a higher risk for medical complications," said Dr. John R. Lumpkin, state public health director. "For that reason, we are asking health care providers to first vaccinate those in most need of protection from influenza. Vaccination of those considered at low risk should be deferred."

Persons at the greatest risk for influenza include those 65 years of age and older, those in nursing homes and those with certain chronic diseases, particularly of the lungs and heart.

Based on information from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Lumpkin said about 60 percent of the total projected influenza vaccine supply should be delivered by the end of October, another 30 percent in November and the final 10 percent in early December.

Those considered to be at high risk from complications of influenza include:

- Persons 65 years of age and older;
- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities
- Adults and children who have chronic disorders of the pulmonary and cardiovascular systems, including asthma;
- Adults and children who have required regular medical follow-up or hospitalization during the past year because of chronic metabolic diseases, including diabetes mellitus, kidney dysfunction, blood disorders or immunosuppression, such as caused by HIV medications or cancer treatments;
- Children and teenagers 6 months to 18 years of age who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy and therefore might be at risk for developing Reye's syndrome after influenza infection; and
- Women who will be in the second or third trimester of pregnancy during the influenza season.

Dr. Lumpkin advises those considering getting a flu shot to check with their health care provider or local health department on its availability.

ers at the University of Illinois, Chicago, will work together to implement the grant proposal.

"We are very enthused about receiving this grant and working with our partners," said Illinois Department on Aging Director Margo E. Schreiber, "because it

will allow us to better prepare families for the inevitable changes that come with age. Decisions involving the care of an adult child with a disability need to be planned with forethought and good information."

In addition to the Illinois

Department on Aging, other grants awarded to help family caregivers include Easter Seals of Chicago, Mathers Lifeways in Evanston, and the Healthcare Consortium of Illinois in Dolton.



2002 Senior American Classic Pageant Set for March

The Ms. Senior Illinois American Classic Woman of the Year Pageant will be held March 16, 2002, at the Four Points Hotel in Oakbrook.

Applications for the pageant are available by calling the Illinois Department on Aging's Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY). Contestants must be Illinois residents 60 years of age or older. There is a \$100 entry fee, which may be obtained through sponsorships.

The current Ms. Senior Illinois American Classic Woman Sandra Sue Gehrs of O'Fallon recently competed in the National American Classic Woman Pageant in Delaware, where she placed in the top seven.

The 2002 National Pageant will be held September 10-15th in Dubuque, Iowa. ❁

Older Workers and Employers Honored



Front Row: Rose Thompson of Chicago; Merle Phillips of Wheaton; Magdalen Scheid of Rockford and Connie Clutts-Feirich of Carbondale. Second Row: North Central Behavior Health Systems of LaSalle; Dorothy Cox of Madison; Lavonda Harrell of East St. Louis; Call for Help, Inc. of Edgemont; Mildred Thurow of Marengo; Rickie Cravens of Fairfield; Antonia DeVaughn of Chicago; Ruth Beven of Homewood; Erich Eilers of Oak Lawn; John Lagestee representing Walts Food Centers of Chicago and Richard Wolf of Wood Dale. Patrick Nagle of Tinley Park is not shown.

The state's outstanding workers and employers were honored by the Illinois Department on Aging at a ceremony September 19, 2001, in Springfield celebrating National Employ the Older Worker Week. The theme of the week was, "Harvesting Experience."

The following were named "Employees of the Year:"

Ruth F. Beven, 80, of Homewood works at **Walt's Food Centers of South Holland** and is described as very organized and excellent with customers and fellow employees. Her duties include packaging bakery products, filling bakery displays and waiting on customers.

Patrick J. Nagle, 70, of Tinley Park works at the **Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation** in **Oak Forest** as Director of Treasures/Deliveries. Inspired by a grandson who is a cancer survivor, Nagle shows compassion in comforting children and teens diagnosed with cancer.

Merle Phillips, 94, of Wheaton works at **Addus HealthCare** in Wheaton as a homemaker and amazes clients with her energy and dedication. She is quick to react

appropriately in any situation and successfully saved the life of one client with the Heimlich maneuver.

Mildred Thurow, 85, of Marengo works at the **Illinois Department of Employment Security's Regional Office** in **Woodstock**. Thurow's work ethic, attendance, dependability, proficiency and knowledge of budget and office procedures are described by her supervisor as "unapproachable."

Rose Thompson, 64, of Chicago worked in a **Chicago Department on Aging Title V** position in 1996 with the Meals on Wheels program and transitioned into a full-time position with the Foster Grandparent Program. She now monitors all the sites where grandparents volunteer.

Title V Employees of the Year:

Dorothy Cox, 65, of Madison works at the Community Care Center of **Protestant Welfare** in **Granite City** where she is described as a "ray of sunshine" in the Senior Aides Program. Previously, she worked 20 years at KlennWright Cleaners and 23 years at St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

Connie Clutts-Feirich, 63, of Carbondale was nominated by the **Carbondale Park District** for her dependability, humor and positive attitude. Despite health problems, she said her job "keeps her going." She often volunteers for Carbondale Beautiful and Carbondale Community Arts.

Rickie Cravens, 60, of Fairfield works in the **Career Development Center** in **Fairfield**. He not only provides assistance to customers individually but greets and assists all 38 developmentally disabled adults at the center. His attendance, attitude and willpower are exceptional.

Antonia DeVaughn, 73, of Chicago works at **The Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired**. DeVaughn maintains a positive attitude and continues to enrich the lives of those she serves. She works in the Lighthouse's Assistive Devices Center and volunteers for the deaf-blind program.

Erich F. Eilers, 67, of Oak Lawn works at the **Illinois Department of Employment Security** in **Burbank**. Eilers displays a work ethic others find refreshing. He is an amputee and has over-

come cancer, but continues to focus on others and is extremely conscientious about his work and responsibilities.

Lavonda Harrell, 61, of **East St. Louis** was nominated by **Call for Help, Inc.** in **Edgemont**.

Harrell is a mentor to clients and is eager to learn new tasks. While helping in the Youth Emergency Shelter, she became an "honorary aunt" to the children.

Magdalen G. Scheid, 70, of **Rockford** was nominated by the **Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging** for her exemplary attendance record, organization and ability to handle multiple tasks. She is also a novelist and has been a foster parent to many children.

Employers of the Year:

Call for Help, Inc., of **Edgemont** utilizes the services of such programs as Senior Aids to help older workers. The agency also works closely with local churches and food pantries and provides a centralized location where the churches and food pantries can call to check on when clients were last assisted. When funds are available, the agency helps seniors with such needs as medication assistance. Call for Help received nearly 1,000 calls in 2000 from citizens age 55 and over.

North Central Behavior Health Systems of **LaSalle** was nominated by **Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging** in **Rock Island**. North Central has 32 staff members who are 55 years and older, making up nearly a quarter of its workforce. North Central has hired every Title V worker who has enrolled at the agency and prides itself on training and staff development. ❖

➤ *continued from cover . . .*

Members of the Caregiver Advisory Committee:

Honorary Chair: **Lt. Governor Corinne Wood**

Chair: Illinois Department on Aging **Director Margo E. Schreiber**
Steve Carter, Manager, AARP, Chicago

Erin Houlihan, Prevention Coordinator, Alexian Bros. Medical Center, Elk Grove Village.

Fran Hankin, Education Department, Alzheimer's Association of Illinois, Skokie

Valerie Bruggeman, Director, Ameritech Communications Inc., Wheaton

Linda Siebert-Rapoport, First Vice President, Bank One Corp., Chicago

Nikki Smith, Editor, LIFETIMES, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois, Chicago

Kathleen Cross, Director, Caregiver Interfaith Volunteer Services, Springfield

Rosemary Gemperle, Executive Director, Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly, Chicago

Rosie Camille, EAP Coordinator, Department of Central Management Services, Springfield

Rev. David Anderson, Executive Director, Illinois Conference of Churches, Springfield

Eugene Verdu, Representative, Illinois Council on Aging, Belleville

Marsha Turner, Executive Director, Illinois Home Care Council, Glenview

Harriett O'Connor, Executive Director, Illinois State Hospices Organization, Chicago

General John Johnston, Director, Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs, Springfield

Willie Gunther, Executive Director, Illinois Assistive Technology Project, Springfield

Jean Wilkins, Director, Illinois State Library, Springfield

Kay Englebrecht, Director, Post Acute Care, Illinois Hospital and Health System Assn., Naperville

Michael Ayers, Executive Vice President, Illinois State Chamber of Commerce, Springfield

Cindy Worsley, Representative, Illinois Coalition on Aging, Sandwich

Joan Brogdon, Director, Kin Care, Inc., Chicago

Thomas E. Jones, Chapter President, National Caucus & Center on Black-Aged, Inc., Chicago

Janet Ellis, Executive Director, Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging, Rockford

Patricia Taylor, Representative, Older Women's League, Northbrook

Mary Kay Buysse, Manager, Parent Care Solutions, Hinsdale

Harriet Ford, Director of Public Relations, Del Webb's Sun City, Huntley

Colleen Jones, Senior Vice President, Senior Care, Chicago

Rachel Schwarzendruber, Educator/Family Life, University of Illinois Extension, East Peoria. ❖

Trainings & Special Events

NOVEMBER: National Caregivers Month.

Nov 1: National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville; **Dec 1:** Location TBA, Peoria; **4:** Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield; **8:** Location TBA, Carterville; **Passenger Assistance, Defense Driving or Emergency Procedures;** Ill. Dept. on Aging and Ill. Rural Transit Assist. Ctr.; Kathy Jump, 217-558-6706.

Nov 6: (For Direct Service/Volunteer Staff), Haymarket Center, Chicago; **7:** (For Direct Service/Volunteer Staff), Family Guidance Center, Chicago; **8:** (For Direct Service/Volunteer Staff), William Tell Holiday Inn, Countryside; **Dealing with Client Alcohol & Substance Abuse;** Ill. Dept. on Aging and Ill. Dept. of Human Services; John Lazell, 217-785-4225.

Nov 15-18: Chicago Hilton and Towers, Chicago; **54th An. Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America;** 202-842-1275.

Governor's Conference on Aging and Human Services

December 12-14
Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers
Cityfront Center, Chicago

Illinois Department on Aging and
Illinois Department of Human Services

For information, call
Rose Lober-Hamilton at 217-785-3377

2002

Jan 30-Feb 1: Hawthorne Suites, Champaign; **Ombudsman Quarterly Meeting;** Ill. Dept. on Aging; Neyna Johnson, 217-785-3140.

Mar 6: Wabash Community College, Mt. Carmel; **16:** Coles County Council – Dial-A-Ride, Mattoon; **Apr 9:** Senior Ctr., Quincy; **17:** CEFS, Effingham; **Jun 15:** Holiday Inn, Countryside; **Passenger Assistance, Defense Driving or Emergency Procedures;** Ill. Dept. on Aging and Ill. Rural Transit Assist. Ctr.; Kathy Jump, 217-558-6706.

Mar 13-14: Champaign; **Illinois Senior Service Corps Seminar;** Ill. Dept. on Aging, Ill. Assoc. of RSVP, Service for Nat. Service; John Lazell, 217-785-4225.

Mar 16: Four Points Hotel, Oakbrook; **Ms. Senior Illinois American Classic Woman of the Year Pageant;** Ill. Dept. on Aging; Nancy Sanson, 217-557-8311.

Apr 9-10: Chicago; **2nd An. Mental Health and Aging Conference;** Ill. Dept. on Aging and Ill. Dept. of Human Services; John Lazell, 217-785-4225.

May 1-3: Hawthorne Suites, Champaign; **Ombudsman Quarterly Meeting;** Ill. Dept. on Aging; Neyna Johnson, 217-785-3140.

May 20-21: Crowne Plaza, Springfield; **7th An. Conf. on Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias;** Ill. Dept. on Aging; SIU School of Medicine, Ctr. for Alzheimer Disease and Related Disorders; Alzheimer's Assoc., Land of Lincoln Chapter; Matt Wescott, 217-785-3357.



Participants involved in the new **Senior Farmers Market Voucher Program** found it to be very popular in the central Illinois region. The program allows low-income seniors to redeem coupons for fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets throughout the state. The Illinois Department on Aging is working in cooperation with the Department of Human Services to distribute the coupons as well as nutrition education materials through Area Agencies on Aging. Pictured here is the farmers market voucher program in Peoria. According to Joanne Thomas, Executive Director of the Central Illinois Agency on Aging, the program met great success due to volunteers from the "Connecting with Congregations" program who helped distribute the vouchers. The Area Agency requested an additional 375 vouchers to meet demand.

Information Exchange

Martha McSteen receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Martha McSteen, the President of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, in September received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Southwest Society on Aging for her distinguished career.

McSteen became President of the National Committee in 1989 after a 39-year-career with the Social Security Administration, the last three years as acting commissioner.

The award presented to McSteen is given annually to honor individuals who have devoted their career to enhancing the field of aging and services to older adults.

"The Southwest Society on Aging is truly honored to be recognizing Ms. Martha McSteen. She has had a tremendous impact on the Medicare and Social Security programs, and aging in general," Elsa Munoz, the President of the SWSA said.

Josefina Carbonell Appointed by President Bush

Josefina Carbonell was officially appointed this fall as Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Aging. She had been nominated by President George W. Bush for the position in June. She is one of the founders and is president and CEO of the Little Havana Activities and Nutrition Centers of Dade County.

Senior Olympians Light the Torch

Senior Olympic Athletes Sam Dorman (left) and Geno Milinowski helped light the torch for the 25th Annual Illinois Senior Olympics during opening ceremonies held September 27, 2001, at Senior Services Senior Center in Springfield.

Geno, manager of the Print Shop at the Illinois Department on Aging, won a Gold Medal in the 5,000-meter



run, a Bronze in the 50-meter and a Silver in the 200 meter. John Lazell, another IDoA employee who works in the Communications and Training Division, was a first-time competitor and took home a Silver medal in the 5,000-meter run.

Enjoy Brunch with Celebrity Chefs

The Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging is hosting "A Suburban A Fare" Celebrity Chefs Brunch at 11 a.m. Sunday, November 4, 2001, at Abbington Distinctive Banquets, Rt. 53 and Butterfield Road in Glen Ellyn. The event will benefit Holiday Meals on Wheels and will combine a gourmet multi-course meal prepared and served by the area's finest chefs with silent and live auctions. For more information, call Connie Kobitter at 630-293-5990.

Did you know....

Social Security recipients who owe federal taxes can have their benefits levied to pay their tax bill? Social Security payments could be levied by 15 percent until the debt is satisfied. To prevent payments from being levied, Social Security beneficiaries should contact the Internal Revenue Service to resolve their tax debt. The IRS is sending notices to those who owe federal tax debts.

West Central Illinois AAA Honored as 'Good Neighbor'

The Illinois Red Cross has honored the West Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging with the "State of Illinois Red Cross Good Neighbor" Award for "having made a significant humanitarian contribution to the local or state community in support of American Red Cross activities."

The organization said that West Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging is to "be commended for delivering 6,000-plus hot, varied and nutritious meals during area disasters. The flexible staff allowed last minute number changes, shared the heated trucks, provided meals at any hour at economical prices with a caring and cooperative spirit while still providing their own seniors meals." The award was presented at the Illinois Red Cross Annual Meeting Sept. 28, 2001, in Bloomington.



Patricia Daniels of Springfield and her grandson, Ty, (left) were the winners of the annual **Grandparent/Grandchild Contest** at the 2001 Illinois State Fair. They are pictured here with (from left) Joyce Eckley and Joe Steil of Union Planters Bank (sponsors of the contest), and Illinois Department on Aging Director Margo E. Schreiber.

Illinois



State Fair



Illinois Department on Aging Director Margo Schreiber presents a certificate of appreciation to Norma "Duffy" Lyon, Grand Marshal of the **2001 Illinois State Fair** and sculptor of the famous butter cow as Joe Hampton, Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture looks on. Duffy Lyon has sculpted the butter cow for more than three decades and it delights fairgoers each year.

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Published by the Illinois Department on Aging, **Network News** is a quarterly publication distributed free to the agencies and organizations in the Aging Network, older adults, members of the Legislature, the media and other interested people.

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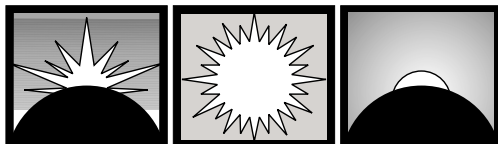
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Printed by Authority of
the State of Illinois
7.5M
October 2001



Printed on Recycled Paper



**Network
NEWS**

www.state.il.us/aging